

# Board of Parole

## Mission and philosophy

“The mission of the Wyoming Board of Parole is to conduct prompt, fair, impartial hearings on the matters brought to its attention and take appropriate action. Consideration will be given to public safety, victims and the treatment and control of the offender.”

The Board’s decisions to release offenders to parole are made with public safety considerations foremost. It considers the information given by the victim(s), the extent of the offender’s rehabilitation efforts, the seriousness of the crime, the offender’s criminal history, the offender’s behavior and rule infractions while incarcerated, family support, the recommendation from WDOC staff and whether it is believed the offender may comply with the terms and conditions of parole.

In paroling offenders, the Board reduces the cost of imprisonment and unifies the offenders with their families, which in turn reduces the State’s cost to support the offender’s family while he or she is incarcerated.

By releasing offenders to parole to be supervised by the Probation and Parole agents employed by WDOC, public safety is enhanced as responses to any non-compliance can be addressed by the agent or reported to the Board for further action. A condition of the release of offenders to supervision requires that they pay toward restitution to the victims for their financial loss resulting from the crime, thus lessening the financial impact to victims. The Board believes the community is better served when offenders are released to supervision rather than finishing their sentences in prison as their behavior can be monitored by agents and assistance can be given in reintegration in the community.

## Results of outcomes

During the year, July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005, the Board interviewed 865 inmates. Of the 656 eligible inmates interviewed, 391 were granted parole and three hundred and forty-one (341) inmates chose to waive their annual hearing. The Board also conducted 137 parole revocation hearings. Additionally, the Board heard 52 cases under special circumstances. Eighty-one (81) parole violators remained incarcerated and 56 were re-paroled upon arrangements with additional requirements.

The Board had 46 hearing days at which three Board members were in attendance. A fourth member attended hearings scheduled for commutation consideration of inmates recommended for that privilege by three member panels. Each attending member is allowed one preparation day for each hearing day and a day for travel to the hearing location.

### General information

Patrick M. Anderson, Executive Director

### Agency contact

Antonio B. Escamilla, Deputy Director  
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Cheyenne, WY 82002  
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### Year established and reorganized

1971; 2003

### Statutory references

Wyo. Stats. §§ 7-13-401 and 7-13-402

### Number of authorized personnel

Six full-time employees

### Organizational structure

Separate Operating Agency with no Divisions

### Clients served

Public, victims and felony offenders

### Budget information

General Fund.....	\$683,256
Other: Victim of Crime Act Grant.....	\$5,000
Total .....	\$683,256

### Agency to which group reports

Governor’s Office

### Number of members

Seven members appointed by the Governor

### Meeting frequency

One to two parole hearing meetings per month one Annual Administrative meeting, and three business meetings per year

The Board members travel to all in-state prisons and to some out-of-state institutions where Wyoming inmates are housed by WDOC to conduct review hearings, parole hearings and interview those inmates forwarded to a quorum for consideration for a possible commutation recommendation. The Board also conducts revocation of parole hearings and considers other parole matters brought to its attention.

Between June 30, 2004 to April 30, 2005, 1,159, initial letters were sent informing victims listed in the Pre-Sentence Investigation Report of their rights under the statute and about how to become certified if they wanted to be informed of the offender's hearings before the Board. The Board's staff also notified 195 certified victims of the review hearing for ineligible inmates and informed 202 certified victims of inmates eligible for parole consideration and of those appearing before the Board for revocations of parole. A total of 204 victims were notified of the outcome of revocation hearings, arrest of parolees, absconding from supervision and commutations recommendations. Ninety-eight (98) victims chose to provide written input to the Board about the case and 21 victims appeared in person to speak to the Board about the crimes perpetrated against them or members of their family.

The Board actively continues its efforts to enhance professional development for members and staff. In April 2005, four (4) members and three (3) employees attended a conference sponsored by the Association of Paroling Authorities International which was hosted by the state of Maryland in Baltimore. In June, two Board members attended a week-long training for new Board members in Kansas City, MO.

The Executive Director and a staff member attended training for the new Strategic Plan format approved by the Governor; in September of 2004, Director Anderson and a Board member gave a presentation about the calculations of sentences, the paroling process and the commutation process at the District Judges Conference in Gillette; the Director and the Executive Assistant attended a Financial And Accounting Seminar; the recording secretary attended the WY Criminal Justice Association meeting in Casper this past December and was elected as the president-elect of the Association; the Deputy Director and a Board member received training to become trainers for the Department of Family Services, Family Partnership Conference Program; two board staff attended a week long training offered by the Victim's Service Division of the Attorney General's Office at the Law Enforcement Academy in Douglas, WY.

In March a Board member and the Deputy Director offered information to Victim Advocates from WY at the Sex Offender Victim's Summit in Rock Springs about the paroling process and about the Board's notification of victims regarding offender's hearings and other Board actions. In December the Deputy Director and Admin-

istrative Assistant offered training to staff of the Adult Community Centers of the State.

Since last year the Board's Policy and Procedures, Governor's Good Time Rules and the application for restoration of voting rights have been reviewed, revised and approved by the Governor and posted on the Board's website, <http://BOP.state.wy.us>.

## Strategic plan changes

The new Strategic Plan for the biennium 2007-2008 has been developed in compliance with the Result-Based Accountability process. The new plan identifies three (3) new performance measures and identifies steps necessary to improve performance in those areas. Those measures are:

- Percent of released inmates successfully paroled.
- Percent of certified victims providing input to the Board.
- Percent of inmates successfully completing the intensive substance abuse treatment programs.

## Board of Parole organizational chart

